

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed May 19, 2005. Claims 5 and 12 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-20 are currently pending.

As an initial matter, claims 5 and 12 have been amended to correct certain informalities pointed out by the Examiner in the Office Action. Specifically, the term "arc" has been changed to "are" in claim 5, in order for the claim to read properly. Additionally, claim 12 has been amended to recite that the concave area of the second articulation surface cooperate with the convex area of the first articulation surface. Applicant submits that these amendments overcome the objections raised by the Examiner.

Further in the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected the claims under the judicially created doctrine of non-statutory double-patenting. Applicant is hereby including a Terminal Disclaimer listing the co-pending applications set forth on page 2 of the Official Action, namely U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/382,702 filed March 6, 2003; 10/776,471 filed February 11, 2004; 10/776,650 filed February 11, 2004; 10/776,656 filed February 11, 2004; and 10/776,434 filed February 11, 2004. Applicant believes the attached Terminal Disclaimer overcomes the double-patenting rejection raised by the Examiner.

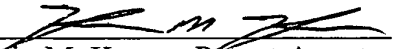
As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone Applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: August 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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